

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A flanged member adapted ~~intended~~ to be included as a first flanged member in a flanged joint; ~~for installation~~ in a pressure equipment device, said flanged member comprising:

a first flanged end with a first end surface configured ~~intended~~ to be assembled together with a corresponding end surface of a flanged end ~~on another~~, of a second flanged member ~~constituting a second component in~~ of said flanged joint;

at least a portion of said first end surface; in an unstressed condition; ~~is being slightly~~ concave in a radial direction, such that ~~it is~~ said at least the portion of said first end surface is curved and defined ~~limited~~ by a ~~curve being a~~ concave curve function, ~~over at least a part of an extension of the first end surface in the radial direction;~~

wherein; in ~~an~~ the unstressed condition, a proximal point on the at least the portion of said first end surface and a distal point of the at least the portion of said first end surface meet a plane ~~is~~ inclined in the radial direction of said flanged member; ~~outwards and away conceived opposite end surface of said second component.~~

2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface is concave over the entire extension thereof in the radial direction.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface is concave in the radial direction over at least an area that ~~will be~~ is subjected to deforming forces when the flanged member is assembled together with said second flanged member as well as during use.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface is concave ~~in the radial direction~~ over essentially ~~that area which, during use,~~

constitutes a contact surface against the corresponding end surface of said second flanged member.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface comprises a varyingly ~~more than one~~ concave ~~part~~ surface in the radial direction.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, ~~and~~ further comprising an internal, through, axial opening, said first end surface having an innermost abutment point against the corresponding end surface of said second flanged member, said abutment point ~~is being~~ situated nearest ~~farthest~~ in the radial direction, ~~at to~~ said opening, the concavity of the first end surface extending all the way in to said abutment point.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein said first end surface has an innermost abutment point against the corresponding end surface of said second flanged member ~~at, which has~~ an internal, through, axial opening of said second flanged member, said innermost abutment point being situated nearest ~~farthest~~ in the radial direction, ~~at to~~ said opening, the concavity of the first end surface extending all the way in to said abutment point.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein a conceived straight line (X) that connects an innermost point (a) of said first end surface, in the radial direction, with an outermost point (b) thereof, in the radial direction, has a length L_x and the concavity of the end surface has a maximum depth D_k in relation to a conceived plane surface produced by said line (X), which depth D_k is of the order of 0.01 % - 2 % ~~0.01 % - 2 %~~ of L_x .

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~★~~ The flanged member according to claim 1, wherein at least a part of a transition area, between a surface of the flanged end directed away from said end surface and a part of the flanged member that is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the member, is shaped as a substantially elliptical area.

11. (Currently Amended) A joint comprising ~~two joint halves formed as~~ two flanged members adapted for and included in a pressure equipment device, said two flanged members each comprising ~~have~~ at least one flanged end ~~each~~ having an end surface, ~~and said members are connecting assembled together~~ said two flanged members in an assembled state, ~~via the end surfaces of said flanged ends, such that in the assembled state said end surfaces face are facing~~ each other,

wherein at least a portion of the end surface in an unstressed condition of at least one of said flanged members being slightly is concave in a radial direction, such that the at least the portion of the end surface it is curved and limited defined by a curve being a concave curve function, a proximal point on the at least the portion of said first end surface and a distal point of the at least the portion of said first end surface meeting a plane is inclined in the radial direction of said flanged member ~~over at least a part of an extension thereof in the radial direction when the end surface is in an unstressed condition, wherein, in an unstressed condition, said first end surface is inclined in the radial direction, outwards and away from a conceived opposite end surface of said second component.~~

12. (Currently Amended) ~~★~~ The joint according to claim 11, wherein both of the flanged members have a concave end surface.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~★~~ The joint according to claim 11, wherein said end surfaces facing each other before assembly are inclined in the radial direction outwards to from an angle so that they, in radial cross-section, ~~form an angle to each other, when they have been brought together but before assembly, which the angle is being~~ such that a distance between the two end

surfaces increases in the radial direction outwards, at least one of said inclined end surfaces being ~~slightly~~ concave.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The flanged member according to claim 5, wherein said concave surface ~~part surfaces have~~ has more than one ~~different~~ radii of curvature.